

Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone VCO

New Methods of Enabling Telephone Access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons

Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone VCO (IP CT) is an enabling technology that can use existing telephone and computer equipment thereby opening up a wide range of choice to consumers including VoIP telephone service. Four examples of the advantages of IP CT are summarized below.

IP CT In the Workplace

Using a combination of the existing telephone and computer, IP CT can be accomplished without the need for highly specialized equipment or analog telephone lines which are becoming a thing of the past in many office environments.

Advantages:

1. No expensive, single-purpose equipment is needed
2. No analog telephone lines are necessary
3. Existing telephone and IP connection are all that are required
4. All of the features and functions of the business telephone system are available to the user making the user's access to the telephone equal to that of other employees
5. Both incoming and outgoing calls can be captioned

IP CT Access to (E)9-1-1

Because the user's telephone is used for connecting to 9-1-1, all functions of (E)9-1-1 are enabled in the same way as any voice telephone. Captions are supplied over the internet connection.

Advantages:

1. 9-1-1 is connected the same way as any voice telephone
2. The user is connected to the most appropriate PSAP in the fastest time
3. All (E)9-1-1 functionality is preserved including ALI-ANI, call back, etc.
4. The 9-1-1 call-taker is not required to use VCO in the call
5. Captions are supplied over the internet connection
6. If there is a disconnect, 9-1-1 can call back

VoIP with IP CT

By connecting to the handset of the VoIP phone, VoIP telephone service is made available to the captioned telephone user.

Advantages:

1. Low cost VoIP service is enabled
2. No PSTN service is required
3. No special purpose equipment is necessary since any web enabled device including desktop and laptop computers and PDAs can be used as the captioning device.

IP CT with Special Interfaces

Because IP CT is done with computers, specialized interface devices can be used to deliver captioned telephone service to people with multiple disabilities.

Advantages:

1. Large screen displays enable:
 - a. Large fonts for persons with low vision
 - b. Various color schemes (yellow on black, white on blue, etc.) for easier reading
 - c. More text available on screen for persons with reading, dyslexic and cognitive disabilities
2. Computer memory extends the amount of text available for review
3. Braille output devices are enabled for deaf-blind and HOH-blind users